

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 6, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



AER campaign ends today

It's not too late; there is still time to contribute to the AER Annual Fund Campaign for 2007. This is the only time each year Soldiers are asked to help their own organization and their fellow Soldiers.

Contributions remain important to allow AER to fulfill its mission of helping Soldiers in time of distress and misfortune.

Contributions can be made by allotment, cash, or check and will be accepted through May 31. Time may be short but there is still time to contribute.

Remember—AER is Soldiers helping Soldiers.

For more information, call Marge Fissel, AER, 410-278-2508.

Post Theater closes for repairs

The Post Theater will close June 1 and will remain closed until further notice for sound system repairs.

20th SUPCOM deputy retires today

Brig. Gen. Kevin R. Wendel, commander of the U.S. Army 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosives) will host a retirement ceremony for Col. Paul R. Plemmons, deputy commander, 1:30 p.m., May 31, at the Ball Conference Center, building 3074.

Plemmons has been deputy since July 2005. He will receive the Defense Superior Service Medal.

For more information, call 410-436-0425.

Important playground notice

During a recent inspection of installation playground equipment by the APG Safety Office several pieces of equipment were found to be broken or damaged. This equipment has been taped off and is not to be used.

See **SHORTS**, page 6

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Page 2... ATC renames building in honor of Soldier killed in Iraq
Page 3... KUSAHC Health Notes
Page 5 & 12... Deployment News
Page 7... Community Notes
Page 8... MWR
Page 13... Military Rally at Ripken Stadium
Page 15... AAFES News
Page 14... ChalleNGe cadets go through paces with Fire Department

ATC conducts testing on Bay waters



Photo by BLANE MILLER, ABERDEEN TEST CENTER TECHNICAL IMAGING DIVISION

The Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle undergoes endurance test operations the week of May 21 on the waters of the Chesapeake Bay adjacent to Aberdeen Proving Ground under the guidance of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center developmental test support personnel in their 11-Meter Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat. The EFV is the Marine Corps next generation tracked amphibious assault vehicle capable of transporting 20 Marines at speeds in excess of 25 knots on the open ocean and then proceeding ashore to provide inland infantry support with its 30mm chain gun mounted in a two-man turret.

APG Energy Champions learn about energy conservation, efficiency plans

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
 APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel learned various ways to conserve energy and steps organizations are taking to continue the effort throughout the installation during the APG Energy Champion Workshop May 16 in the garrison command conference room.

Energy Champions are selected employees who are responsible for promoting energy conservation in their organizations.

Hosted by the Directorate of Installation Operations, the workshop featured speak-

ers who discussed future plans to reduce operating costs on APG.

According to DIO energy reports, APG's utility bill for 2006 was more than \$42 million.

In his opening comments, Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, discussed the importance of saving energy.

"The number one security problem in America is assured access to fossil fuels," Wright said. "You're here to help us in the national challenge of reducing the dependence on fossil fuels."

He recommended that

employees turn off lights in hallways where there is enough sunlight to see and to call the DIO Energy Hotline, 410-306-1107, if they see lights on in buildings after duty hours.

The installation is already taking steps to reduce fossil fuel costs by only mowing common areas, Wright said.

Brandon Davis, APG energy program manager, updated workshop attendees on the Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal, Environmental, Energy and Transportation Management" that President Bush issued in January.

These goals include improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse emissions by 3 percent annually through 2015 and reducing water consumption intensity by 2 percent annually through 2015.

"We're on track right now but it will be a challenge to keep up with these goals," Davis said.

He also updated attendees on the progress his team, the DIO Energy Action Team, has made with conservation plans since the last APG Energy Program meeting March 23, 2006.

The team is working with Johnson Controls, a contractor

that provides heating, ventilation and air conditioning and other energy systems for APG, to look at boiler controls and ensure they are working efficiently, he said.

David McGeown, energy practice leader, DIO's Business Management Division's Energy Action Team, encouraged energy champions to spread the word of conservation.

He discussed the 2007 APG Energy Strategy, Utility Monitoring and Controls Systems.

The first phase is to install electronic meters in each building that will send information on costs to a centralized data-

See **ENERGY**, page 4

APG names its 2006 volunteers of the year

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
 APG News

Mindful of what volunteers mean to the Aberdeen Proving Ground community, Army Community Service recognized and thanked installation volunteers during the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at Top of the Bay May 16.

While budget cuts and staff reductions have resulted in a loss of some services at military installations around the world, much of what is being accomplished despite depleted resources is accomplished due to volunteerism, according to Dolores Johnson, director of Family Programs at Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command.

"Soldiers, civilians, retirees, spouses and youth are providing service in schools, hospitals, on sports fields, and in many other organizations and offices," Johnson said. "Through their dedicated service, Army volunteers contribute more than six million service hours annually, helping transform military installations into communities by enhancing the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families."

Led by ACS director Celestine Beckett, the program featured remarks by Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, and the naming of the five volunteers of the year.

The 2006 Volunteer of the Year awards went to Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel Valadez, military; Elisa A. Paolucci, Family Member; Luis Felipe Fernandez, Civilian; Barry Decker, Retiree; and Diana Stanley, Youth.

Decker and Stanley were the only nominees in their respective categories.

Beckett thanked all for attending despite a heavy rainstorm that occurred shortly before the program began.

"I'm very proud to be hosting this ceremony," Beckett said. "Thank you all for braving the storm."

Nadeau called the evening "significant" in that just the week before he met the new Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey Jr., who shared his thoughts on the needs of the Army and Army Transformation.

Nadeau said that Casey agreed with the general consensus that throughout the military there still is a strong sense of duty and that members are proud to serve.

"That being said, we are still an Army at war," Nadeau said, "and he knows that if we're going to continue to demand this of our armed forces, then we cannot take focus off their Families."

There are money issues in every military community and garrison commanders everywhere are faced with the questions of "What can we let go?" and "What can we hang on to?" Nadeau said.

"You can't hang onto it all and you have to find a way to do the best you can with what you have," he said, adding that, APG volunteers have provided "an amazing amount of savings that we simply could not have afforded."

"If it wasn't for volunteers we would not have what we have," Nadeau said. "Volunteers make the biggest difference in quality on an installation and that's the difference

See **VOLUNTEERS**, page 14

Ordnance Corps celebrates 195th anniversary

OC&S

An evening of inspiration, dinner and dancing culminated this year's Ordnance Anniversary activities at the Ordnance Ball, May 11, at Top of the Bay.

Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph R. Allen, XVIII Airborne Corps, issued a challenge for attendees "to take an extra step, the extra step necessary to be "great," instead of just "good."

The Army's second largest branch, the Ordnance Corps, celebrated its 195th anniversary with various activities. Activities kicked off May 9 with the Ordnance Corps Association's 10th Annual Golf Tournament.

On May 10, Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halstead, chief of Ordnance and commandant of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, inducted the 2007 Ordnance Hall of Fame inductees at the Hall of Fame ceremony at the Ordnance Museum.

"This year's inductees have made major contributions to the Ordnance Corps and they emulate our rich heritage of excellence," Halstead said.

Route 24 entrance closed for bridge repair

DLES

The State of Maryland will perform bridge repair on Route 24 in APG South beginning June 11 and is scheduled to be completed in the latter part of August. The work will require the closure of the Route 24 Gate. Effective 5 a.m., June 10, the Route 24 Gate will close. Visitors and commercial vehicles must use the Magnolia Gate.

The Magnolia Gate (Route 152) will be operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Due to the configuration of that gate area, traffic patterns will be different than the Route 24 Gate. In order to support visitor and commercial vehicle traffic, the Magnolia Gate will be designated for inbound traffic



"Their distinguished service reminds us that each generation builds on the vision and accomplishments of those who pioneered before them."

This year's historical inductees were Lt. Col Karl L. Zilske and Floyd I. Abel.

The contemporary inductees were Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, Brig. Gen. Randolph T. Poore, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Carl E. Beckwith and Command Sgts. Maj. Lorenzo G. Alejo and Preston L. Siple.

only from 6 to 9 a.m. each workday, similar to current Route 24 Gate daily operations.

The Wise Road Gate (Route 755) will remain the same and will be restricted to government ID holders only. Wise Road Gate hours are 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed on Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.

Motorist safety is paramount, as is driver awareness to the difference in gate configuration. The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security urges motorists to be attentive to the voice and signal directions of the police officers at the Magnolia Gate. Remain alert, flexible and patient to the changes in traffic patterns.

ATC names building for task force Soldier killed in Iraq

Story by
MIKE CAST
DTC

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center honored a Soldier killed in Iraq during the armored thrust into Baghdad by renaming one of its facilities after him during an official renaming ceremony May 18.

Building 269 of ATC's Trench Warfare Complex became the Staff Sergeant Stevon A. Booker Memorial Building.

Speakers at the event recalled the fallen Soldier's heroism and concern for the men in his unit, Task Force 1-64 Armor.

The task force, comprising the 3rd Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 64th Armor, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, conducted the first armored raid into Baghdad April 5, 2003. Booker's M1A1 Abrams tank, a system thoroughly tested at ATC, destroyed numerous enemy vehicles and killed enemy troops as part of the lead element of Task Force 1-64.

Booker was mortally wounded by enemy fire while engaging the enemy at close range with his M4 carbine from his tank commander's hatch. He had popped up to fire at the enemy with his carbine after a 50-caliber machinegun in his tank failed to operate.

Booker earned the Silver Star, Bronze Star

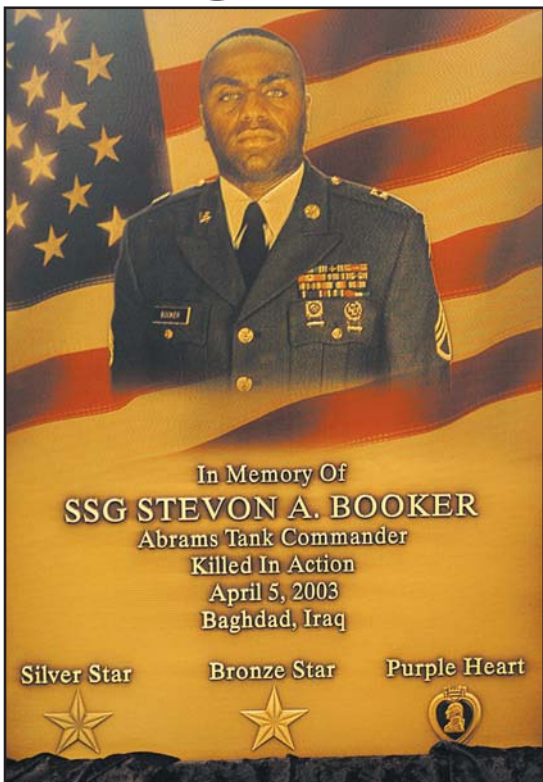


Photo courtesy of ATC
The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Warfare Complex became the Staff Sergeant Stevon A. Booker Memorial Building during a renaming ceremony May 18.

and Purple Heart.

"We didn't just lose anybody; we lost Booker of the Desert Rogues – loud, proud and cocky," recalled Maj. Andrew Hilmes of his fellow 1-64 Task Force Soldier in remarks at the ceremony. "We lost someone that we cannot replace. We're all better off for knowing him and being graced with his presence in our lives."

Hilmes described Booker as the type of non-commissioned officer who cared deeply about his troops and made sure they were all squared away, whatever the requirement.

"Staff Sergeant Booker called it as he saw it. He was 'old school,'" Hilmes said. "He took it personally when he and his crew took on enemy fire. He was so offended that anyone would want to hurt his crew. Their final test, met to his exacting standards, was how flawlessly they performed in combat. As his spirit left his body, I know that he was proud of his crew."

Col. John Rooney, ATC commander, also spoke of Booker at the renaming ceremony. He noted how Booker personified the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

Booker's death brings the work of DTC into stark relief for Army testers, according to Rooney.

"We can never afford to forget the reasons

we do what we do," he said, adding that Americans must never forget to say "thank you" to the men and women serving America at war.

Rooney described Booker as a hero and quoted Abraham Lincoln on the subject of heroism.

"Lincoln said any nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure," Rooney said.

Michael Asada, the deputy project manager for Heavy Brigade Combat Team, called Booker a legend and said he was someone the troops could look to for calm in the heat of battle.

"Booker was a leader and somebody who took care of his troops," Asada said. "When the men were afraid of the unknown, he reminded his crew that they were riding in an M-1 tank, and it was the enemy who should be scared."

Tanks could fight in urban environments, thanks to men such as Booker, Asada said.

Among the speakers at the ceremony was the Rev. Craig Giles, pastor at Triumph Baptist Church in Sewickley, Pa. He characterized Booker as a great Family man and model Soldier. Booker left behind "a great legacy," Giles said.

Booker's mother, Freddie Jackson, was on hand to unveil a plaque in Booker's honor as were his sister, Kimberly Booker, and nephew, Alexander Booker.

College projects honor veterans during Military Appreciation Month

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

An upstate New York college that promotes volunteerism and community support projects as part of its curriculum is honoring service members deployed in support of the War on Terror by promoting two of its veteran-focused projects during Military Appreciation Month.

Manhattanville College launched the My Soldier project in 2004, and it now boasts more than 400,000 members.

The program was started by Army Sgt. Juan Salas, who served a tour in Iraq before enrolling in Manhattanville as a way to support America's armed forces and acknowledge their sacrifices.

Salas said that he hoped to get the message out about the dignity and conviction of his

comrades, which he witnessed firsthand.

"At first all I wanted was to reach out to guys that I know; members of [the] platoon I served in, to let them know somebody back home is thinking about them. I am thrilled and honored that we have more people and Soldiers sign up every day and that we have been able to let so many brave service members know that somebody back home cares."

Participation in My Soldier is open to the public, Salas said. In fact, the program was established with the goal of reaching and enrolling participants in all 50 states.

"We had registrants from forty-three states after one week and met our goal of all fifty within one month," said the program's co-founder Anne Gold.

More than 400,000 people



have joined Manhattanville's My Soldier program so far, reaching more than 175,000 service members.

Participants include veterans, parents of Soldiers, Canadian citizens, and students from other colleges as well as scout troops, schools, church and women's, a Wal-Mart, police and fire departments and an AARP group.

My Soldier is reminiscent of the POW/MIA bracelet program that was launched on Veteran's Day, 1970, Gold said. That campaign was the brainchild of two college students in Los Angeles who were looking for

ways for young people to support Soldiers without becoming involved in the controversy surrounding the war.

Along with the president of Manhattanville, Richard Berman, Salas and Gold came up with the idea for their own bracelet support project.

"We were just brainstorming and thought a pen pal and bracelet program was the perfect fit," Gold said.

Berman said that it is important for college campuses to sponsor programs like My Soldier.

"[This] is support and commitment to the men and women in the services. That's what we hope will happen at Manhattanville and across the country. Wearing the bracelet is a reminder that service members are making sacrifices for democracy right now."

"There's a strong social justice and community service focus at Manhattanville," he added. "Last year, students at our small school of fifteen hundred undergraduates logged over nineteen thousand community service hours. My Soldier is a natural extension of

the school's mission: to educate students to become ethically and socially responsible leaders for the global community."

"The program seeks to find pen pals for every U.S. Soldier who wants one and to distribute bracelets to participants," Salas said. "The bracelets are not for sale. Rather they are available to anyone who signs up for the program and promises to participate."

By enrolling in the My Soldier program, participants agree to "adopt" a deployed service member. Support can consist of periodic letters or e-mails to the service member contact the program provides.

Enrollment involves downloading a My Soldier Starter Kit which contains detailed instructions on how to begin as well as written guidelines. Typically, the service member replies and direct correspondence begins.

"About fifty percent of the Soldiers respond, but one-hundred percent appreciate getting the letters," Salas said.

Participants may also send care packages and the starter kit details what items are needed, and the U.S. Postal Service

guidelines and suggestions.

"If your Soldier is unable to write back for five weeks or redeploys home and you wish to adopt another service member, we will provide another Soldier for you to correspond with," Salas said.

The My Soldier program has received national media attention in Newsweek, USA Today, the New York Times, and on the CNN, ABC, and FOX-TV networks.

To enroll, visit the My Soldier Web site at www.mysoldier.com.

Hats Off to veterans

The Manhattanville College "Hats Off to Veterans" program promotes recognition to veterans, especially those who are home or hospital bound due to injuries received while serving the nation. Participants agree to mail or deliver a respectful note or greeting of encouragement to a hospitalized veteran. Like the My Soldier program Hats off to Veterans is a free program that is open to everyone. Enrollment can be accessed through the My Soldier Web site at www.mysoldier.com.

Upgrades enable battlefield doctors, medics to view patients' medical history stored in U.S.

Story by
JAMES TYLL
DoD Military Health System

The Theater Medical Information Program-Joint has released a fifth groundbreaking upgrade to its medical software suite. The new capability, known as AHLTA Warrior, will allow doctors on the battlefield to view a patient's complete electronic health record that is stored stateside in the AHLTA Clinical Data Repository.

"AHLTA Warrior will give deployed providers a nearly three hundred sixty degree view of a patient's health record," said Army Col. Claude Hines, TMIP-J program manager. "Not only can they see the medical data collected in theater, but now they will be able to review a patient's past medical history as well."

Some other new features that will be welcome additions to the software suite include, "wildcard" patient search functions, updated medical dictionaries and new medical and disease classification codes.

The "wildcard" patient search will allow providers to quickly locate patient records using the first few letters of a last name and a special character. The updated codes will streamline documenting and reporting duties resulting in an overall improvement in efficiency and data quality.

"This is a big win for both the Warfight-

er and the Military Health System," said Maj. Michael Holmes, director of Product Development for TMIP-J. "The TMIP Team and its developmental partners are medical information management pioneers. Every upgrade delivers stronger and more flexible functionality to the military's deployed medical community."

About TMIP-J

The Theater Medical Information Program – Joint is an integrated suite of software that supports complete clinical care documentation, medical supply and equipment tracking, patient movement visibility, and health surveillance in an austere communications environment. As part of the Military Health System, TMIP-J provides medical information management technology to support the U.S. Military's deployed medical business practice. It also serves as the medical component for both the Global Combat Support System and the Global Command and Control System.

TMIP-J is being used successfully by the Marine Corps in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Air Force in Balad and Bagram hospitals, the Navy in Kuwait and the Army in over 100 units, including 50 medical units and 12 combat support hospitals. TMIP provides a total medical information management solution for the medical business practice in theater.

For more information, visit www.tricare.osd.mil/peo/tmip.

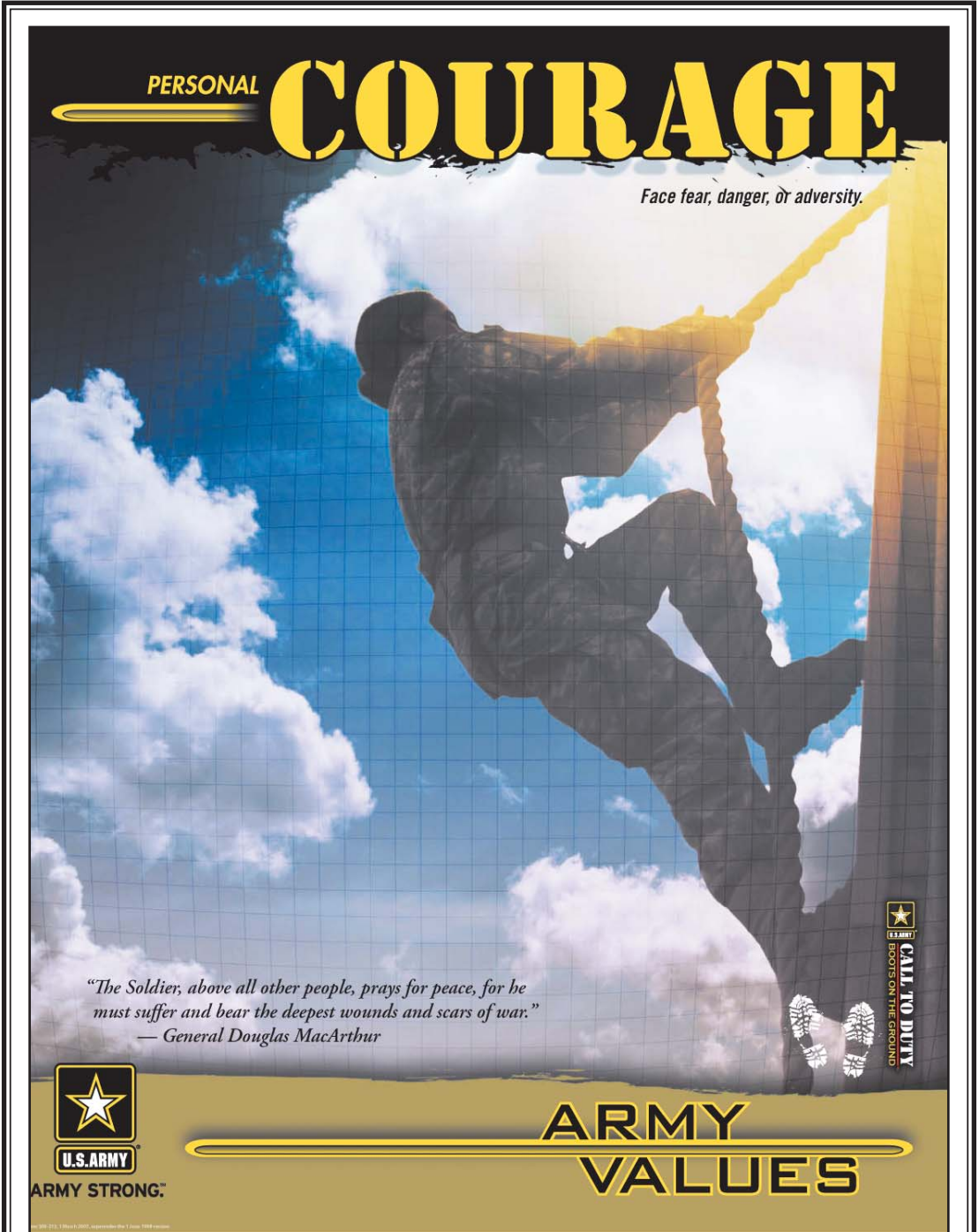


Photo by ARMY G-1

The Army recently issued new versions of the Army Values poster series. This is the final poster in the series.

Personal Courage. Face fear, danger or adversity (physical or moral). This means being brave under all circumstances (physical or moral).

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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Women needed for clinical breast care project

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A new screening tool being tested at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center at Fort Meade may help in the early detection of breast cancer among pre-menopausal women.

The Electrical Impedance Scan, or T-Scan, is a non-invasive device that uses a new technology to spot breast tissue abnormalities.

The study is a part of the Clinical Breast Care Project of Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Participants must be active-duty military (any branch) or activated National Guard or Reserves, retirees or spouses of active duty service members (any branch).

Women between the ages of 30 and 45 are the target participant group for the instrument, which is being evaluated at five military medical centers including Fort Meade and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

This collaboration between the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Windber Medical Center in Windber, Pa., and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military

Medicine is a Department of Defense supported study.

“Right now [the T-Scan] is considered an investigational device,” said Nansy Mathews, a nurse practitioner with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine who is conducting the study at Fort Meade.

Mathews said that besides a clinical breast exam, there are no effective detection methods for women under the age of 40.

“The T-Scan can potentially determine the probability of breast disease among younger women,” Mathews said.

The device consists of a hand-held transducer and a probe, both linked to a computer system.

During the exam, Mathews, who conducts all of the exams, uses the probe to take measurement of the patient’s breast while the patient holds the transducer in the opposite hand of the breast being evaluated.

The T-scan is a physiological exam that measures the electrical flow of current through the breast tissue, Mathews said.

“The goal is to test breast abnormality based on the electrical flow. The idea is that abnormal cells have different heat conductivity,” she said.

The scanned measurements are compared to a database of 20,000 normal breast exams, and at the end of the exam, a red or green barcode appears at the bottom of the computer screen.

Red indicates that the patient falls out of the norm and additional diagnostic testing is recommended.

More than 3,000 women have already participated in the T-Scan research study since it began in April 2005.

The project has created a culture of awareness and breast health education for a demographic of women too young for mammograms or not considered high risk for developing breast cancer, Mathews said.

The Food and Drug Administration approved the T-Scan device in 1999. It was first introduced as a possible detection device after previous studies indicated a correlation between positive T-Scan results and a clinical breast cancer risk.

The study is being conducted over a five-year period and will involve 11,000 women.

For more information, contact Mathews at 301-677-8858 or e-mail her at nansy.mathews@amedd.army.mil.

(Editor’s Note: Some material for this article taken from The Belvoir Eagle.)

Time, a valuable commodity

KUSAHC

Especially at this time of year, schedules are loaded with shopping, work, school activities, social functions and doctor appointments. Everyone is scrambling for time.

Along with all the other planning in people’s lives, it is best to be prepared well ahead of a medical appointment date and time at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. When calling for the appointment, confirm address and telephone numbers with the Call Center. Should there be a problem, the clinic will be able to contact the patient.

It is crucial to be on time at KUSAHC. Patients are reminded to report 15 to 20 minutes prior to the scheduled appointment time. Be sure to plan for unforeseen circumstances such as an accident causing a delay or long waits at the APG gate.

Timely arrival of the patient allows for a smoother processing of the patient’s care and does not cause delay for others.

Late arrivals are defined as being any time past the scheduled appointment time.

Any patient that is late can be refused services by the clinic; however there are three options.

An appointment can be re-scheduled; the patient can wait for a possible cancellation; or wait to be seen after all other patients have been seen, provided there is a vacancy in the physician’s schedule.

Remember, providers and clinic personnel are not required to stay after normal clinic hours (lunch or end of day) to accommodate a late patient.

Most of all, it is important to take time for health.



KUSAHC SHOTS

JUST DON'T KNOW HOW TO RELAX?

There will be a Relaxation Class offered at the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic in the Readiness Training Center, 5 to 6 p.m., June 20, led by Margaret Nahrgang.

The new time makes it more convenient to attend the class right after work.

“Different techniques will be taught, as well as ways to recognize your stress triggers and learn how to calm yourself when life seems to be coming at you in full force,” Nahrgang said.

The class will meet the third Wednesday of the month and can accommodate 15 patients. Participants should wear casual clothing and bring an exercise mat.

For more information, call Nahrgang, 410-459-7583, after 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DoD blocks Internet sites to protect grid

Story by
JIM GARAMONE
Army News Service

The Defense Department is blocking access to many popular Internet sites from department-owned computers due to bandwidth issues, U.S. Strategic Command officials said May 14.

Joint Task Force Global Network Operations, which directs the operation and defense of DoD’s global information grid to assure timely and secure capabilities in support of the department’s warfighting, intelligence and business missions, blocked 12 popular sites on government computers.

The sites are: **youtube.com**, **pandora**.

com, **photobucket.com**, **myspace.com**, **live365.com**, **hi5.com**, **metacafe.com**, **mtv.com**, **ifilm.com**, **blackplanet.com**, **stupid-videos.com** and **filecabi.com**.

The popularity of the sites has not affected operations yet, but blocking them prevents them from causing such a problem, officials said.

“It is a proactive measure: we do not want a problem with demand for these sites clogging the networks,” a U.S. Strategic Command official said.

The blocks affect only DoD computers and local area networks that are part of the department’s global information grid. The department has more than 15,000 local

and regional networks and more than 5 million computers in the grid.

Department officials stress they are not making a judgment about the sites. Blocking the sites “is in no way a comment on the content, purpose or uses of the Web sites themselves,” the official said. “It is solely a bandwidth/network management issue.”

Offices with a need to access these sites from government computers can request exceptions to the policy. Global network operations officials will continue to assess the stresses and strains on the global information grid, and may add or subtract sites as needed, officials said.

Energy

From front page

base, McGeown said.

Due to Army funding, it will take a few years for each building to obtain the meters, he said. If APG receives the fund-

ing, the first phase of meters will be installed in October 2008.

“After we know what the costs are, we can focus on prioritizing what needs to be fixed,” McGeown said.

DIO employees will use the reports along with logic and subject matter experts’ opin-

ions to make decisions on “building tune-ups,” he said.

They will also work with Johnson Controls to see how much they save after the changes are made, he said.

Arba Williamson, environmental protection specialist for Installation Management Command Directorate of Public

Works, discussed the positive and negative aspects of alternative fuels.

Daniela Caughron, civil engineer for DIO’s BMD, talked about DIO’s efforts to bring alternative fuels to APG.

Some of the efforts included requesting that the U.S. Army Evaluation Center convert their tanks to biodiesel fuels, that the Army and Air Force Exchange Service install alternative fuels at APG, and submitting a biofuels grant application to the Maryland Energy Administration for \$30,000.

In addition, Caughron said she met with Virginia Clean Cities, Clean Fuel USA, IMCOM Northeast Region Office, Navy Exchange and other agencies in April to discuss possible partnerships to bring biofuels to APG.

Dan Pazderski, civil engineer, Harford County DPW, Environmental Affairs Division, informed energy champions about the Harford County Waste to Energy Facility’s contract with the Army.

Pazderski discussed how the WTE Facility meets the Army’s needs.

“The Army needs additional steam and electricity,” he said. “The energy from the waste meets the Army’s mandate to purchase renewable energy.”

Plans are in the works to expand the facility in 2009 to produce more energy and create more space for waste disposal, he said.

At the end of the workshop, attendees gave suggestions on how they could make their organizations more efficient.

“We can start doing simple things like turning off the lights because we have a newly renovated building so we have a lot of sunlight,” said Cpl. Charlene Carroll, Noncommissioned Officer in Charge for the APG South Dental Clinic.

“I think we should revert back to having a standardized regular day off in my office,” said Carl Cole, facility operations specialist for the AEC. “When people have different regular days off the lights are left on. Initially, we could try it for a month and see what happens. I think it would save a lot of money.”

For more information about the APG Energy Program, call Davis, 410-306-1151, or e-mail brandon.davis16@us.army.mil.

APG Energy Program goals

- Reduce energy use by 30 percent in existing facilities by 2015.
- New construction and major renovation complies with the Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings.
- Increase the use of renewable resources to 7.5 percent of the total 2015 energy use.
- Reduce water use by 16 percent in existing facilities through implementing the Department of Energy’s water best management practices by 2015.
- Operate the installation to support mission requirements during an emergency.
- Reduce consumption of petroleum fuels 2 percent a year and increase the non-petroleum fuels 10 percent per year in Garrison vehicles by 2015.

Officer Candidate School Board announced

Adjutant Office

The U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade, will convene a board for Soldiers applying for attendance at the U.S Officer Candidate School July 19 and 20.

Along with the U.S. Military Academy and the Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Officer Candidate School remains an important source of commissioned officers for the Army.

The Army has increased the number of Soldiers who may attend Officer Candidate School.

Candidates apply through local boards-Fort Meade for APG Soldiers-and those selected begin a rigorous, 14-week course of instruction at Fort Benning, Ga.

Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers who wish to become commissioned officers should prepare their applications early.

The key prerequisites for eligibility are:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Have a GT score of 110 or higher.
- Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test, minimum of 180.
- Meet the height and weight standards of AR 600-9.

Deployment News

Mind your health: May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Story by
ERIN LYDDANE
DoD Military Health System

A service member with mental health issues is not a problem service member, but a service member with a problem.

Many behavioral health care services are available to these service members as well as their Families.

The Defense Department offers free online and telephone mental health and alcohol self-assessments for a range of common emotional situations that often go undiagnosed and are misunderstood. Voluntary and completely anonymous, the Mental Health Self-Assessment Program is a mental health and alcohol self-assessment for service members and their Families affected by deployment. It's offered online at www.militarymentalhealth.org/ and via the telephone 24 hours per day, seven days per week at 1-877-877-3647, as well as through local in-person events.

“The Mental Health Self-Assessment Program is a place for our military Family mem-

bers to connect when they feel disconnected,” said Dr. Jack Smith, acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for Clinical and Program Policy and acting chief medical officer, TRICARE Management Activity. “It may not solve the problem, but it’s a good place to start.”

The program offers self-tests for depression, bipolar disorder, alcohol problems, general anxiety disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder. Once completed, the self-assessment gives information on where service members may go for a full evaluation.

Another valuable resource is Military OneSource, a 24-hour, seven-day-per-week, toll-free information and referral service for active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, deployed civilians and Family members. It provides comprehensive information on a wide range of topics from everyday concerns to deployment and reintegration issues. A Military OneSource consultant may refer service members or eligible Family members to

licensed professional counselors in the local community for six sessions per problem at no cost to the service member or their Family member in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Face-to-face counseling confidentially addresses short-term issues dealing with relationships, grief and loss, adjustment to deployment, stress management, parenting or combat stress.

For more information, contact Military OneSource by using:

- Web site: www.militaryonesource.com
- Phone: Stateside (toll free): 800-342-9647 Overseas (toll free): U.S. access code + 800-3429-6477 Overseas (collect): U.S. access code + 484-530-5908

TRICARE offers behavioral health care coverage for medically necessary services. To save money, beneficiaries should seek behavioral health care from a military treatment facility, when available, or from a TRICARE network provider. For those who need help overcoming alcohol and/or

drug abuse, TRICARE covers detoxification, rehabilitation and outpatient care provided in an authorized substance abuse rehabilitation facility. Beneficiaries should ask their primary care managers or a mental health specialist about treatment options.

For additional information about covered and non-covered behavioral health care services, beneficiaries should consult the handbook for their TRICARE program option, access the TRICARE Behavioral Health Benefits Pamphlet through www.tricare.mil/tricaremart/default.aspx or contact their regional contractor at www.tricare.mil.

Following redeployment, service members learn coping strategies to reintegrate with their Families, how to manage expectations, the importance of communication and to be careful about alcohol use. During redeployment processing, service members are screened for depression or stress-related problems. For both short- and long-term problems, behavioral or mental health care is available.

New behavioral health Web site offers answers

Story by
JERRY HARBEN
Army Medical Command Public Affairs Office



What exactly is a Post-Deployment Health Reassessment? Where can I get help for my spouse who is having nightmares about experiences in combat? My buddy said he’s thinking about committing suicide, what should I do?

Such questions come to the fore when Soldiers must deal with the stress of war. Now there is a new source for quick access to answers.

A new World Wide Web site, www.behavioralhealth.army.mil, provides information for Soldiers, their Families and other interested members of the public.

Topics include behavioral-health needs before, during and after deployments; pre- and post- deployment health assessments; post-traumatic stress disorder; suicide prevention; Battlemind training; and resources where Soldiers and Families can get help. Links and points of contact are provided for additional information.

“Although many Web sites have information relevant to behavioral health in general, not many are relevant to Army personnel,” said Col. Elspeth



ARMY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Search!

Home

News

FAQs

Get Answers

Links

Pre-Deployment

Post-Deployment

Post-Deployment Health Assessment (PDHA)

Post-Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA)

PTSD

Soldiers

Couples

Children

Extended Families

National Guard

Army Reserve


Suicide Prevention

Research

Battlemind

Provider Information

This Web site provides resources and information regarding mental well-being for Soldiers and their family members. Provided by the U.S. Army Medical Department, it is intended for interested Soldiers, family members, the public, news media and Army Medical Department Beneficiaries.



Maj. James Andrews kisses his son during a homecoming ceremony that marked his unit's return from a yearlong deployment in Southwest Asia. (Photo by Spc. Kristopher Joseph, 5th Corps)

"When our Soldiers return home, most will experience a brief readjustment period and a successful home transition. Some will need short or long-term counseling to assist in their transition. Medical assistance from the Army and the VA is available to provide treatment and see them through to a healthy outcome. Fifteen to thirty (15-30) percent of Soldiers returning from Iraq experience post-traumatic stress symptoms or other mental health symptoms. This is not unusual after combat. Recognizing and treating these symptoms early is key to preventing them from becoming a disorder such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

The majority of troops are and will remain mentally healthy. This is the result of leadership. Our Army is trained and ready and we'll led. Leadership makes a difference in the mental health of our force.

Let me end by saying that our efforts in education, prevention, and early treatment are unprecedented. Our goal is to ensure that every deployed and returning Soldier receives the health care they need."

Col. Elspeth C. Ritchie, MD, MPH
Director, Proponency Office for Behavioral Health
U.S. Army Medical Command

Privacy & Security Notice | External Links Disclaimer

Last Updated: March 29, 2007

C. Ritchie, psychiatry consultant to the Army Surgeon General. “We created a portal where people can find relevant and reliable information about behavioral-health needs specific to the Army.”

Fifteen to 30 percent of Soldiers returning from Iraq experience post-traumatic stress symptoms or other men-

tal-health symptoms. This is not unusual after combat. Recognizing and treating these symptoms early is key to preventing them from becoming a disorder such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

From the new site’s front page, people can navigate quickly to pages for news

See WEB SITE, page 12

Post Shorts

It is requested that par-ents accompany their children to the playgrounds until all repairs have been made to ensure they exercise caution while playing in and around the playground areas.

The APG Garrison Director-ate of Installation Operations, Maintenance Department, will be performing immediate repairs to repairable items and remov-ing all other unsafe equipment.

Housing Management will appreciate cooperation in this matter.

RAB holds meeting

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its month-ly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., May 31, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Other Edgewood Areas Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employ-ees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

NASCAR car returns to APG

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Main Exchange and APG North Shoppette will host the Crown Royal NAS-CAR car 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 1. The car will be on dis-play at the Main Exchange 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the Shoppette 2 to 5 p.m. The Shoppette will hold samplings and give-aways including hats, T-shirts, prizes and gift cards. Remember to bring a camera for photos with the NASCAR car and driver.

MPT WWII docu-mentary

Maryland Public Television is looking for Latino/Hispan-ic and Native American World War II veterans and civilians employed in the war indus-tries and support services who served in World War II. MPT wants to interview the indi-viduals so their contributions made to the country during the war can be presented in a documentary film that will bookend the Ken Burns’ spe-cial called, ”The War” to be aired in September. There is a July deadline.

If anyone has names, contact Kathy Abey of Congressman Wayne Gilchrest’s office with the name and contact informa-tion, 888-393-3915 or e-mail kathy.abey@mail.house.gov.

Thrift Shop holds bag sale

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Thrift Shop, located in building 2458, is holding a \$2 Bag Sale during regular busi-ness hours in May. Sale items are mainly men’s, women’s and children’s clothing.

The Thrift Shop hours of operation are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, 10

a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Sat-urday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more informa-tion, call 410-272-8572 during business hours.

Veterinary Clinic closings

The APG Veterinary Treat-ment Facility will be closed June 1 for end of month inventory. For more information, contact the VTF, 410-278-3911/4604.

FEW accepting schol-arship applications

The Federally Employed Women Foundation’s Scholar-ship Program was established to assist its members and their immediate families who are looking to further their aca-demic goals. The scholarship is for one full four year-scholarship in the science and technology career fields with Grantham University (**www.grantham.edu/few.htm**), a 100 percent online university based in Kansas City, Mo. The scholarship includes all books and software for the complete-ly online academic program.

For applications and addi-tional information, visit **www.fewfoundation.org**.

Deadline for applications is June 1.

For more information, contact Patricia Wolfe, 202-447-5573 or e-mail wolfepatrickam@aol.com or Connie Stenlund, csflower-boutique@yahoo.com.

WACVA meets June 2

Maryland Freestate Chapter 70 of the Women’s Army Corps Veterans Association will meet in the Aberdeen Senior Center 11 a.m., June 2.

The group focuses on community service projects regarding the needs of fellow veterans and active duty service members. Membership is open to women who have served or are serving in the Army (active, Reserve and National Guard); and affiliate membership is open to members of all other branches. Refreshments will be served and a group lunch fol-lows the meeting.

For more information, call 410-939-1429; visit Web site **www.wacveteranschapter70.org**, or write WAC Chapter 70, P.O. Box 423, Aberdeen, MD 21001.

Hydrant flushing scheduled through June

Fire hydrant flushing in APG North is scheduled through June 8. The City of Aberdeen will perform annual hydrant flushing starting with the Fam-ily housing area starting at 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Through June 8, flushing will include Spesutie Island, the U.S. Army Research Lab-oratory area and all restricted areas.

For more information, call Dennis Overbay, 410-652-0862 or the City of Aberdeen representative, Curtis Ball, 410-278-2335.

Mandatory Sexual Harassment training

The biennial Prevention of

Sexual Harassment training for appropriated and non-appropri-ated fund supervisors and all other civilian employees serv-iced by the U.S. Army Garrison, Equal Employment Opportunity Office will be held at the APG South Conference Center, build-ing E-4810, June 6.

Supervisor training is sched-uled 8 to 10 a.m. Employee training is scheduled 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.

Request for sign language interpreter must be coordinat-ed through Roxanne Conley, 410-278-1100.

The training schedule is also available on the APG Gar-rison Intranet Homepage and the EEO Office Web site.

For more information, call Neslie Etheridge or Rox-anne Conley, EEO Office, 410-278-1131/1100.

ACS holds Waiting Families Support Group meetings

The Waiting Families Sup-port Group is scheduled for 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays only, at Army Community Ser-vice, building 2754 Rodman Road. This group is designed to provide resource informa-tion to assist spouses and family members remaining behind while the military sponsor serves on unaccom-panied tours, extended TDY, or deployments.

Meetings will be held June 13, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.

For more information, call Marilyn Howard, ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road, 410-278-9669/7572.

Dining facilities hold 232nd Army Birthday Specialty Meal

The 232nd United States Army Birthday Specialty Meal will be held in the APG North dining facilities, build-ings 4503 and 4219 and the APG South dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., June 14. During this event all military personnel, Family members, Depart-ment of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invit-ed to dine.

The holiday meal rate of \$6.05 applies to any offi-cer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$5.15 applies to spouses and other Family mem-bers of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The menu includes buffalo wings with bleu cheese dress-ing grilled steak with sautéed mushrooms and onions, broc-coli, cheese and rice casserole, barbecue chicken, cheesy bacon burger, chili dogs with cheese and onions, grilled pol-ish sausage, barbecue pork sandwiches, submarine sand-wiches (finish your own), baked beans, macaroni and cheese, freedom fries, onion rings, potato bar, baked sweet potato, corn on the cob, south-ern style collard greens, assorted salad bar, potato salad,

Movies

**ADMISSION:
ADULTS \$3.50,
CHILDREN 1.75
Building 3245
Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call
410-272-9008, or visit
www.aafes.com
and click on
“Movie Listing.”**

**The theater will be
closed beginning June 1
until further notice for
sound system repairs.**

cole slaw with creamy dress-ing, macaroni salad, assorted condiments, hot dinner rolls, assorted breads, corn bread, army birthday cake, apple pie, big chocolate chip cookies, watermelon and assorted fresh fruit, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is sub-ject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

Job vs. Career Classes for teens

Army Community Service will hold Job vs. Career Class-es for teens, ages 13 through 18, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., at ACS Classroom building 2754. Classes will be held June 20, July 18 and Aug. 15.

Today’s work force offers many challenges and rewards. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job. The ACS Employment program and Tina Mike, APGFCU Education director, will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success.

Topics include:

- what employers are look-ing for
- how to apply for a job
- tips on resume writing
- interviewing experience

For more information or to enroll teens in this free class, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness, 410-278-9669

Reunion for McNair Kaserne Signal Battalions

The first Reunion of the 32nd, 201st and 17th Signal battalions of McNair Kaserne of Hoechst, Germany, will be held June 15 to 17, at the Hol-iday Inn at the Plaza located on One East 45th Street, Kan-sas City, Mo. All veterans, Family and friends are invit-ed to attend.

For more information or to register, call Rhonda Gunn (’77 to ’80), 847-458-8346, or e-mail rhondag0464@yahoo.com or rgunn@cmn-law.com; or call Doug Otoupal (’76 to ’79), 432-426-2644 or e-mail doug@otoupal.org.

*(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at **www.apgnews.apg.army.mil** under Shorts.)*

Community Notes

**THURSDAY
MAY 31
SUNSET CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$12 for children under 10 years of age. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area for a relaxing sail and a beautiful sunset. Reservations can be made with credit card. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**FRIDAY
JUNE 1
HAPPY HOUR CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Happy Hour cruise on board the Skipjack Martha Lewis. The cruise will depart 5 p.m. Passengers can board the ship at Tydings Park, 352 Commerce Street, Havre de Grace. Tickets cost \$35 per person (must be over 21) and includes a two-hour cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area, bottled mixed drinks, beer, soda and light appetizers. Reservations are required. Credit cards will be accepted.

For more information, to make a reservation or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

**MASS CANINE
WEDDING**

Pampered Paws Gourmet Treats and the Humane Society of Harford County will hold the county's first-ever mass canine wedding. Vows will be held 6 p.m. to coincide with Havre de Grace's First Friday celebration. Participants will meet at Pampered Paws, 200 N. Washington Street, Havre de Grace. Entry fee costs \$20 per dog and includes a bridal gown or tuxedo for a dog, a flower for the owner, the blessing of the dogs, a wedding ceremony and a reception following the nuptials. Balance Photography will provide professional photographs of the proceedings. Proceeds will benefit Harford County Humane Society programs. For more information, e-mail pamperedpawsgourmet@comcast.net or erin@harfordshelter.org.

**BLUE MOON STROLL
AND CAMPFIRE**

Stroll the Creek's shoreline to the pontoon pier as the sun sets, and enjoy moon lore and s'mores around the campfire as the full moon rises. Hike back to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center through the moonlit woods. The program will be held 8 to 10 p.m. for Families, ages 5 through adult. Cost of the program is \$4 and registra-

tion is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 2
WONDERFUL
WETLANDS**

Peek into the world of wetlands by canoe and explore the plants and animals that inhabit this special place. This event will be held 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult and costs \$10. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BUGGIN' OUT

Let's go find some bugs. Hike around the Discovery Trail turning over logs and rocks, and even dig in the ground. Be prepared to get dirty. This free program will be held 10:30 a.m. to noon for ages 5 to adult, with ages 5 to 7 accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**ST. JAMES AME
CHURCH CHOIR
ANNIVERSARY**

The St. James AME Church Youth and Young Adult Choir, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will celebrate its 18th Choir Anniversary, 5 p.m. The guest choir will be The St. Stephens Youth Choir from Essex, Md.

For more information, call 410-939-2267.

**SUNDAY
JUNE 3
A PADDLIN' HIKE**

Take a guided tour along a portion of the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center's new canoe trail. Built as an Eagle Scout project, the trail includes interpretive stations which will be expanded upon by a naturalist. This program will be held 9 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 8 to adult and costs \$10. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**MONDAY
JUNE 4
TOASTMASTERS CLUB
MEETING**

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562 will hold its regular meeting 11:40 a.m. at the Gunpowder Club in APG South.

The club is open to anyone on or off post who wants to improve their communication, leadership and listen-

ing skills and overcome the fear of speaking in public. Lunch will be available. For more information, call Len Kolodny, 410-734-6573.

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 6
WEDNESDAY WEE
WONDERS I**

Join a naturalist and her wee one for a critter encounter and hike. This program will be held 10 to 11 a.m. for ages up to 4 and is free. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SATURDAY AND
SUNDAY
JUNE 9 AND 10
FREEDOM HILLS
ANNUAL TRAIL RIDE-A-
THON**

Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program, Port Deposit, will hold its annual Trail Ride, Ride-A-Thon and Walk-A-Thon to benefit the physically, mentally and emotionally challenged. Ride one will take place both days, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with lunch available on the trail; walk, trot canter and heavy hill work. Ride two will take place 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m., June 9; and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 10, walk only ride. The event costs \$25 for adults; \$15 for children ages 6 to 18; free for children under 6 years of age; cost of box stall for two nights is \$40; \$25 for one night.

For more information or for directions, call 410-378-3817 or 1-866-431-6874, or visit www.freedomhills.org.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 9
10TH ANNUAL WADE-IN**

Join the Tributary Strategy Team and the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center for

an afternoon of watery fun. Retired Senator C. Bernie Fowler began the wade in to measure water quality and the tradition is carried on while wading into the waters of Otter Point Creek. Afterwards there will be lots of family activities including live music, fish printing, turtle time, pontoon boat rides, fish seining, canoeing, face painting and more. Free for all ages. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688

**'BAR-B-QUE
CHALLENGE' AND
BAKING CONTEST**

Calling all cooks and bakers. A 'Bar-b-que Challenge and Baking Contest' will be held 1 to 4 p.m., at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection located on Rumsey Island, Joppatowne. Cooking will take place 7 to 11:45 a.m.; judging will be held at noon. Barbeque can be either a meat or non-meat entry.

Cost of admission to this event is \$5 and includes a sample of the entrees. For more information or to register, call Beverly, 410-679-5394 or 443-846-1017.

**PERRY HALL BAPTIST
COMMUNITY FAIR**

Perry Hall Baptist Church, located on 3919 Schroeder Avenue, Perry Hall, will host a free Community Fair, 1 to 4 p.m. Events include live music, helicopter rides, hay rides, jugglers, clowns, pony rides, free hot dogs, chips, snowballs, popcorn, door prizes, live music, dunking booth, moonbounce and more.

For more information, call 410-256-8880 or e-mail jhartman@perryhallbaptist.org.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Dover Downs Raceway Nextel Cup

Zoom on down to “The Monster Mile” Dover Downs Raceway Nextel Cup race on June 3. The bus departs 9:20 a.m. and returns approximately 8 p.m.

Experience the thrill of the speed, the unique white concrete track, the roar of the engines and cheers of the crowd.

Cost of the trip is \$130 and includes bus transportation and tickets - reserved seating on Turn 3, sections 139-149, rows 1-30.

For more information or for registration, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

LPGA tickets

MWR has tickets to see the McDonald’s LPGA Championship featuring the biggest names in women’s golf June 4 through 10 at Bulle Rock, Havre de Grace.

Cost is \$12 for regular admission and includes one day admission and transportation to and from designated parking areas. Season Badges cost \$33 each and includes daily admission and transportation to and from designated parking areas.

Saturday, June 9, is Military Appreciation Day. All active duty and retiree ID card holders will be admitted free.

Talent Search tryouts begin soon

The annual search for APG’s most talented is on and MWR is looking for a few good vocalists. Tryouts for the APG Talent Search and the chance of moving on to bigger events, like the U.S. Army Soldier Show, begin in a few weeks. Tryouts will be 6:30 p.m., June 5 and 6 at the

APG North Recreation Center.

MWR ID card holders and their Family members, age 18 or older, are eligible to participate. MWR is specifically looking for vocalists (individuals or groups), poets, dancers, instrumentalists or comics. Rules for the show are posted on the MWR Web site at www.apgmwr.com.

The Talent Search will be held 6:30 p.m., June 23, at the APG North Recreation Center, building 3326.

Discount soccer tickets

In honor of Armed Forces Appreciation Day, discount Major League Soccer tickets are available. Soccer teams DC United vs. Chicago Fire, 7:30 p.m., June 16, will take place at RFK Stadium. Tickets cost \$15 per person. The deadline to purchase tickets is June 8.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call or stop by MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail MWR_Leisuretravel@apg.army.mil or visit Web site www.apgmwr.com.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

MWR has scheduled several trips to New York City – eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, to see a Broadway matinee, venture into China Town and more.

Trips will take place June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 or Nov. 17. Cost of the trip is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 8:25 a.m. and will return 10:30 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or visit MWR

Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

APG holds Talent Show

A Talent Show will be held June 23, at the APG North Recreation Center, 6:30 p.m.; doors open 6 p.m. The event is open to the public.

Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$7 for non-military.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR registration, Aberdeen North, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Aberdeen South, Hoyle Gymnasium, building E4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

Daytona NASCAR Tickets

Tickets for the July 1, Nextel Pepsi 400 at Daytona, Fla., are available at MWR. Tickets cost \$45 per person for superstretch seats, rows 1 through 31; \$67 per person for superstretch terrace seats, rows 33 through 61; \$58 per person for seating from the turns; \$126 per person for seating from the turns tower; and \$46.50 for a Nextel Fanzone Pre Race Pass. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

New York City Liberty Tour

On July 7 Cruise aboard the famous Circle Line cruise ship down Manhattan harbor to the Statue of Liberty for the best view in the city. Following the cruise, enjoy lunch on the coach touring famous and not-so-famous

New York sights narrated by a professional and friendly step on guide. Then explore and shop in midtown Manhattan. Shop for souvenirs, browse at Macy’s or stroll Times Square. Cost of the trip is \$90 per person and includes roundtrip transportation, cruise and lunch.

Deadline for registration is June 22. The bus will depart 7:20 a.m. and return 9:30 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR registration, Aberdeen North, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Hoyle Gymnasium, Aberdeen South, building E4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

See the Wiggles

See Sam, Murray, Jeff and Anthony in “Racing to the Rainbow,” 3 p.m., Aug. 10, at the Baltimore 1st Mariner Arena. Tickets for \$29.75 are located in 200 level.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-

278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Disney High School Musical on ice

Tickets are available for Disney High School Musical: The Ice Tour, Nov. 2 through 4, at the 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

MWR begins daily bus trips to Atlantic City

Roll the bones on daily trips to Atlantic City. MWR Leisure Travel Services offers daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Bally’s Casino. Cost of the trip to Trump Taj Mahal is \$28 per person with \$25 back in cash and a \$5 buffet coupon. Cost of the trip to Bally’s Casino is \$22 with \$22 back in cash. Only for

ages 21 and over.

The bus will leave Vitali’s Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood at 9 a.m. and return at 9 p.m.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

MWR has Washington 2007 Kings Dominion season passes

The Italian Job Turbo Coaster, White Water Canyon, Rugrats Toonpike and more await visitors to Kings Dominion. Season passes for adults cost \$68 and season passes for juniors and seniors cost \$50. Purchase season passes by June 29. Open to all Department of Defense employees.

For more information or to purchase passes, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Aberdeen Ironbirds tickets

Sports

Racquetball Tournament

A Start of Summer Racquetball Tournament will be held 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., June 23, at the Aberdeen Athletic Center, building 3300. The tournament is limited to ages 18 and over. There will be a round robin tournament with men’s and women’s divisions for players in A-advanced, B-intermediate, C-beginners and Open-not sure categories. Cost of entry is \$5 for active duty and \$10 for all others. Trophies will be awarded to the top three in each division (determined by win or loss percentage). Military personnel with training in the morning should contact the tournament director prior to the registration deadline date for special scheduling.

Registration deadline is June 21.

For more information or to register, call MWR Leisure Travel, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail mwr-registration@apg.army.mil, or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Challenger Soccer Camp

Challenger Sports’ British soccer camps are the largest

camp in the United States and includes individual skill development, professional British coaching staff, programs for all levels, daily world cup style tournaments, free soccer ball, free T-shirt and a bonus British soccer jersey if youths register 45 days before the camp.

Soccer Camp is scheduled for July 23 through 27.

Camp for ages 4 and 5 will be held 8:30 to 10 a.m., and costs \$72 per child; ages 6 through 14 will be held 10:10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and costs \$102 per child. Camp will be held at the Youth soccer field (APG North) on Bayside Drive.

For registration, visit www.challengersports.com and click on ‘find a camp,’ click on ‘type of camp (British Soccer camps),’ type in the APG zip code (21005) and click on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

Amateur Boxing Night

Once again MWR will host Amateur Boxing Night, 6 p.m., June 2, in the parking lot of the APG Athletic Center, building 3330. The 143rd Ordnance Battalion will battle the 16th

Ordnance Battalion.

Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$10 for civilians and \$20 for front row seating. Admission is free for children 6 and younger. The event is open to the public.

Purchase tickets at MWR Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E-4210 or call 410-436-3375/7134.

All Army swim team openings

Armed Forces Sports has added a swim team to the Army delegation for the upcoming World Games in Hyderabad, India. Any active duty Soldier interested in trying out for the team should contact Donna Coyne, 410-278-3929 or e-mail donna.coyne@apg.army.mil by the end of May. The actual competition will be held Oct. 8 to 22.

For more information, visit the Military World Games Web site, <http://www.cism-mil-sport.org/eng/welcome.html> and click on “World Games” or <http://www.mwg2007.org>.

Swimming pool operations

Pool passes and lessons on sale now

OLYMPIC POOL, BUILDING 3325

Opening date: May 26
Weekends only: May 26 to June 10 plus Memorial Day, May 28
Daily operation: June 16 to Aug. 26
Labor Day weekend: Sept. 1 through 3
Closing date: Monday, Sept. 3

Daily operation schedule

Child & Youth Services Day Camp: 9 to 11:30 a.m., June 18 to Aug. 17
Open swim hours: 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.
The lap swim lane is available during standard hours.

Weekend operation schedule: Open swim: 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

SHORE POOL, BUILDING 2031

No open swim schedule.

POOL PASS FEES

Daily.....	\$5
Under 5	Free
Guest of eligible patron.....	\$9
5 and under.....	\$2
Active duty E1 – E4.....	\$2
Lap swim.....	\$2
30-day pass	
Individual	
E1–E4.....	\$15
All others.....	\$35
Family	
E1–E4.....	\$35
All others.....	\$70
Season pass	
Individual	
E1–E4.....	\$40
All others	\$85

Lap swim, swim lessons, drown proofing and rentals only.

Swimming lessons: June 19 to Aug. 10; Levels 1-6, Adult, Parent/Toddler are scheduled daily. (Determined by customer demand.)

Lap swim: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., June 18 to 29

BAYSIDE POOL, BUILDING E-4655

Operates on same schedule as the Olympic Pool.
Weekend hours: 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Daily operation schedule

CYS Day Camp: 9 to 11 a.m., June 18 to Aug. 17
Open swim hours: 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Family

E1- E4	\$80
All others	\$175
Season passes go on sale April 9 at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center in APG North, 410-278-4124, and at the Hoyle Gym in APG South, 410-436-3375.	
SWIMMING LESSON FEES	
Lesson location: Shore Pool; cost is \$50	
*10% discount for each additional child in a session.	
*10% discount for each additional session	
Registration dates:	
April 9 - Active duty military only	
April 23 - DoD civilians	
May 7 - All other eligible patrons	



90th Anniversary Celebration Calendar of Events

(All dates are subject to change and weather conditions.)

June

- 2 and 3, Ruggles Senior Club Championship, 9 a.m., age 50 and older, limited to annual, MWR, Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452
- 11, Ruggles Super Senior Tournament, age 60 and older, MWR, Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452

July

- 26, Army Community Service Birthday Picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(Editor’s note: This calendar will be updated as necessary. New or changed items will appear in italic bold print.)

August /September /October

- TBA Army Concert Tour

November 2007

- 10, APG 90th Anniversary Gala, Ripken Stadium, 7 to 11 p.m., for more information, call 410-278-1150
- 15, Military Family Movie, ACS, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.

December 2007

- 5, ACS Christmas Party/Tree Lighting Ceremony, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

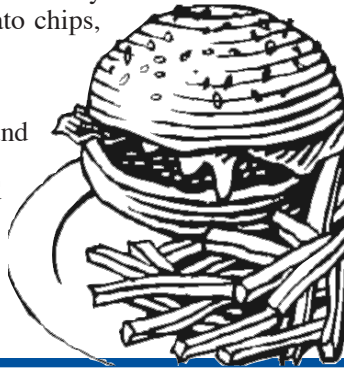
Week of May 28

- Special #1: Tuna wrap with lettuce, tomato, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$4.75
- Special #2: Tuna salad served on top of lettuce, tomato, pickles on the side, green peppers, cucumbers, onions, cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$3.75.
- Special #3: Chicken tender sub served on a junior sub roll with mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions, cheddar cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.75.

Week of June 4

- Special #1: Nine wing dings or WZ, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$5.85 (No mixing wings).
- Special #2: Grilled cheese and garden salad, one cookie and soda for \$3.35.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



Summer activities, house and car break-in arrests highlight May Well-Being Council meeting

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

Summer activities and house and car break-in arrests were the highlights of the May 17 Well-Being Council at the Aberdeen Proving Ground North Chapel.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, informed attendees on Garrison efforts during the last several weeks.

The Garrison staff has reviewed the issues presented at the March APG Army Family Action Plan conference and sent the active ones to the proper directorates to be resolved, Wright said.

He also told attendees that Tim McNamara, former director of Safety, Health and Environment has been selected as the civilian deputy to the commander, APG.

Wright also thanked Tammy Wright and Claire Rice for working with Buzz Soltis, Directorate of Installation Operations, on post beautification this spring. He also thanked Col. Tim Adams and his family for their efforts on beautifying the Plumb Point Loop area.

“I’d like to thank them and show appreciation to them for making the post look a little better,” he said.

He said that the change of command for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command is slated for June 19, and during the next several months “there will be plenty of opportunities to welcome Maj. Gen. And Mrs. Fred Robinson to the community and show them what a great place APG is to live, serve and work.”

MWR

Staci Umbarger, manager of the Leisure Travel Services office, talked about the upcoming Morale, Welfare and Recreation events.

The LPGA Golf Championships at Bulle Rock in Havre De Grace is June 4 to June 10; Military Appreciation Day is June 9. All active duty and retiree card holders get in for free.

King’s Dominion will hold a Military Appreciation Picnic, 1 to 3 p.m., June 30.

Tickets are on hand for Aberdeen Ironbirds games for July 11, Aug. 16 and Sept. 6. Aug. 16 is Military Appreciation Night.

Longwood Gardens tickets are available.

For more information about MWR events, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Pat Palazzi, acting chief of Child

and Youth Services, thanked those who attended the Spring Fest/Bike Rodeo May 5.

She informed attendees that summer camp registration is almost full for APG North but openings in APG South are still available. To register children for summer camp, call 410-278-7479 or 410-278-7571.

Palazzi encouraged parents to sign their children up for Smart Start Football, Smart Start Soccer and the British Soccer Camp.

Marilyn Howard, APG Army Volunteer Coordinator for Army Community Service, thanked those who attended the Volunteer of the Year ceremony May 16.

In addition, Gina Dannenfeler, chief of MWR, said that APG will hold a 90th anniversary Gala at Ripken Stadium, 7 to 11 p.m., Nov. 10. More details will follow.

DLES

Joseph Darabasz, deputy director of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, encouraged community members to be on the lookout for anything out of the ordinary.

He discussed how a community member’s vigilance helped police arrest someone who had broken into a car on APG.

A man was loading his groceries into his car at the Commissary when another man watched him and followed him home. After the man with the groceries went into his house, the other man broke into his car to get his GPS system, Darabasz said.

“Luckily, the neighbor was looking out the window and saw what was happening so he called the police,” he said. “The police stopped him at the gate and arrested him.”

Darabasz also addressed recent break-ins in the housing areas and said that the police have been “capturing a lot of people who are giving a lot of information.”

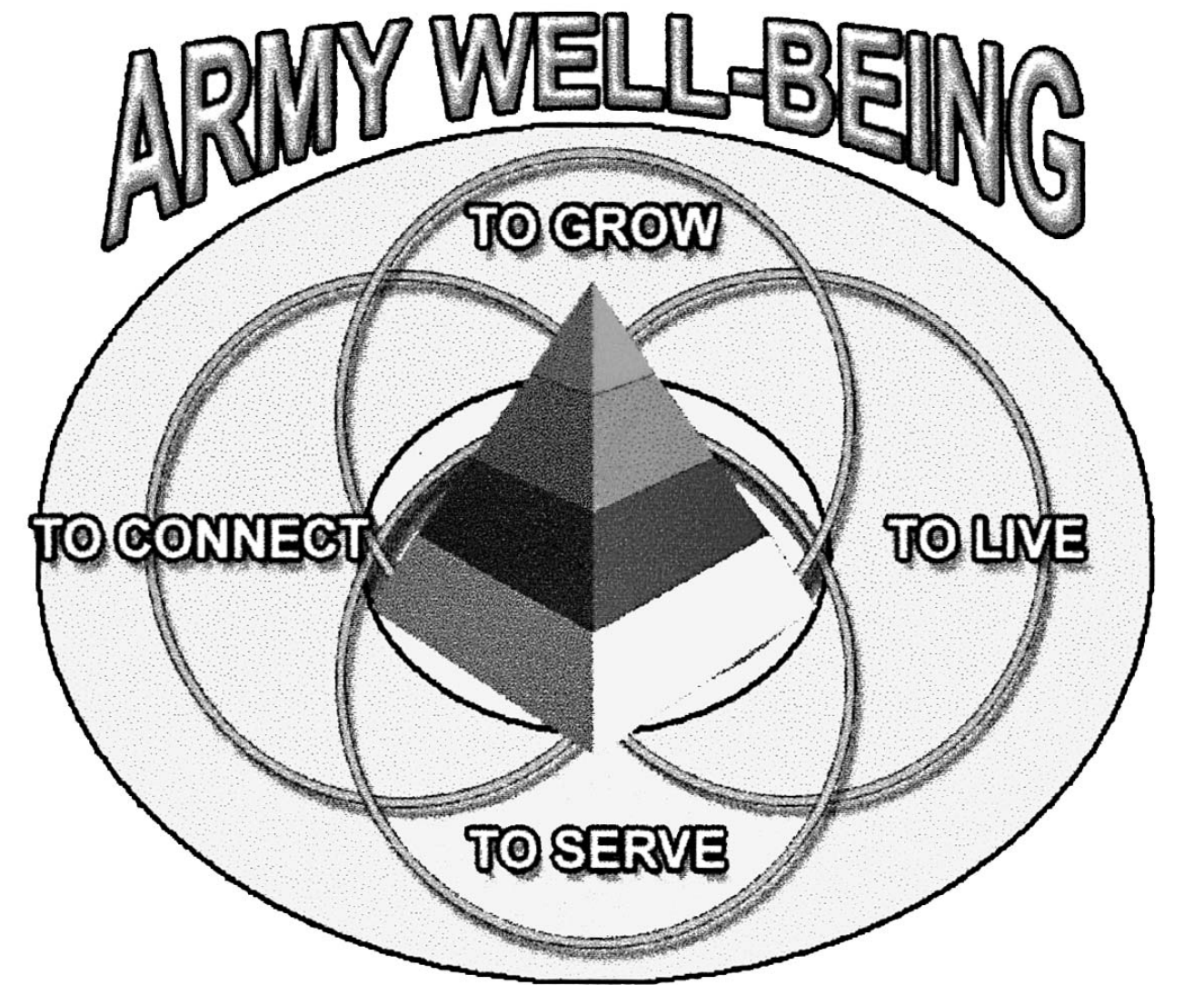
“Hopefully we have most of the recent break-ins under control,” he said.

In addition, Darabasz said that the “Click it or Ticket” campaign will run through June 23.

AAFES

The Crown Royal Nascar race car will visit APG June 1. It will be at the Army and Air Force Exchange Services 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and at the Shopette 2 to 5 p.m.

On June 17, the store will hold its first AAFES Iron Chef Contest on Father’s Day. Fathers will have the



opportunity to display their cooking skills during a cook-off and win prizes. For more information, contact Debbie Armendariz, 410-278-5784.

KUSAHC

Commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Col. William Rice was promoted by former commander Col. John Wempe in a ceremony May 11.

Rice said that KUSAHC narrowed the physical examination step down from a three-step process to a one and a half step process.

“Depending on the kind of physical you get, you will receive a packet and for a regular physical you have two weeks to complete Part I,” Rice said.

When patients finish Part I, they can proceed with Part II of the physical examination, he said.

Patients can find out more information online at www.Tricareonline.com.

Rice also told attendees that the pharmacy refill line has been down from time to time and patients should either call the number or visit the Web site listed on the lid of their medica-

tions if they encounter this issue.

He encouraged patients to use TRICARE Online to schedule appointments because the automated distribution system can also malfunction.

“When you can’t get through on the phones, you can register for TRICARE Online,” Rice said. “One hundred percent of the appointments are Web enabled and you can see all of the available appointments online,” he said.

He added that access to care is still very good at the clinic and that patients can get appointments “easily right now.”

Rice informed attendees that KUSAHC is without a physical therapist and PT technician because they both have been deployed. An Army Reservist will conduct physical therapy sessions on Mondays, he said.

An AFAP issue brought up during the conference in March was that KUSAHC should better communicate health benefits and services. KUSAHC is now holding Healthnet briefings the first Thursday of each

month from 5 to 7 p.m.

DIO

Flowers are available at the old Re-Nu-It location, building 5413. For more information, call 410-278-8814.

Wright said that once flowers are planted, they become property of APG and if they are taken out without permission, it is a “misappropriation of funds.”

He recommended to residents if they see vacated houses with flowers, to contact DIO to have the flowers relocated to “conserve the property and the investment taxpayers have made.”

Chapel

Vacation Bible School will be 6 to 8:45 p.m., June 25 to June 29. This year’s theme is “Holy Land Adventure: Galilee by the Sea-Catch Jesus in Action.” The chapel is still looking for more child participants and adult volunteers. For more information, call Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516, or e-mail gerri.merkel@apg.army.mil.

The next Well-Being Council meeting will be 9:30 a.m., June 20, at the APG North Chapel.

DOD unveils compensation program for frequent deployments

Story by
SARA WOOD
Army News Service

The Defense Department unveiled a program April 18 that will reward administrative leave to service members whose service in combat does not meet the department’s goal for the time at home-station between deployments.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates directed the development of this program Jan. 19 when he implemented a force-management policy stating that DOD’s goal was to give active-duty troops two years at home station for every year deployed, and reserve component troops five years at home station for every year deployed. At the time, Gates recognized that national security concerns would require service members to be deployed more frequently than this goal, so he announced a compensation plan to make up for frequent deployments.

Under the new policy, active duty service members who are deployed for more than 12 months in a 36-month period will earn one day of administrative absence for each month beyond 12. If service members are deployed for more than 18 months in a 36-month period, they will earn two days of administrative absence a month. Past 24 months, they will earn four days a month.

Members of the reserve components will earn one day of administrative absence a month for every month beyond 12 they are mobilized in a 72-month period. Members of the reserve components will also earn two days a month if they are mobilized past 18 months in a 72-month period, and four days a month if they are mobilized past 24 months in the same period.

Administrative absences are days off authorized by the commander, and are separate from normal leave accrued by a service member.

In a Pentagon news conference announcing the policy, Michael Dominguez, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for Personnel and Readiness, said that this program is meant to recognize the sacrifices service members make, but is in no way trying to put a physical value on their service.

“Secretary Gates and all of us honor the service of the men and women in uniform, particularly in these demanding times,” Dominguez said. “This program can’t be viewed as

being commensurate with the level of service that they offer to the nation. In many respects, while it is substantive and it is tangible, it’s also symbolic. It’s part of our recognition that we’re keeping them in our thoughts and we’re trying to do something for them.”

The policy is retroactive to Jan. 19, so any service member who was deployed or involuntarily mobilized from that day forward, whose service exceeds the time frame in the policy, will earn the days off, Dominguez said. Also, troops who were deployed within the last three years, and are deployed now, will earn administrative leave for their current deployment, he said.

In deciding what compensation to give service members who are deployed more frequently than DOD would like, defense officials considered a wide range of options, Dominguez said. Monetary compensation was considered, he said, but time off seemed the logical choice to reward increased frequency and intensity of service.

“We weren’t trying to find some metaphysical balance between the service you were rendering and buckets full of gold, or any other thing we can do for you,” Dominguez said. “This was about telling men and women of the armed forces that we know when we ask you to do something extraordinary.”

DOD has had a policy since 2004 that pays service members who are extended in theater beyond 12 months \$1,000 a month, Dominguez said. That policy is still in effect, he said, and applies to Army personnel who now have to serve 15-month tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The new policy is meant to deal with frequency of deployments, rather than the length of each deployment, Dominguez said. The administrative leave service members earn under this policy will stay with them through their military career and can be used anytime, with commander approval, he said.

“This is what we do; it is the job,” he said. “This is the job of the men and women of the armed forces, from which they do not shirk, and the volunteer force is extraordinary. This is just saying, ‘Look, we know what you’re doing, we recognize what you’re doing, we’re proud of what you’re doing, we’re grateful for what you’re doing.’”

DoD giving incentives for longer deployments

DoD

The Department of Defense announced April 18 a program to recognize service members who deploy or mobilize beyond the established rotation policy goals.

The goals for the active and guard or reserve units are one year deployed to two years at home station and one year mobilized to five years demobilized, respectively.

Administrative absence will be granted to service members

when these goals are not met and can be used at their convenience. This is provided to enhance the service member’s quality of life and will be done on the following basis:

- One day for each month a service member is deployed over 12 of 36 consecutive months of active duty, or over 12 months of a 72-month period mobilized for the guard and reserves.
- Two days will be granted when thresholds of more

than 18 of 36 consecutive months for active duty, or 18 of 72 months for the guard and reserve are exceeded.

• Four days will be provided when thresholds of more than 24 of 36 consecutive months for active duty or 24 of 72 months for the guard/reserve are exceeded.

Administrative absence is authorized by the commander. It is separate and distinct from normal leave accrued by a service member.

DoD revises hardship, imminent danger pay list

DoD

Periodically, the Department of Defense conducts world-wide reviews to determine whether a continued imminent danger area designation is appropriate.

Imminent danger pay is compensation paid at the rate of \$225 a month to recognize duty in a foreign area in which the member was subject to the threat of physical harm or imminent danger on the basis of civil insurrection, civil war, terrorism, or wartime conditions.

The Department of Defense announced Friday that Angola, Georgia, Sierra Leone, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Macedonia will no longer be classified imminent danger pay zones.

Hardship duty-location is compensation paid to recognize members in designated hardship duty locations (i.e., areas where quality of life is substantially below that most members in the United States generally experience). Factors considered include physical environment, living conditions, and personal security.

To ensure members in these areas are compensated appropriately, increases to hardship duty-location (HDP-L) in Angola, Georgia, and Sierra Leone are increased from \$100 to \$150 a month. Macedonia is increased from zero to \$100 a month.

All of the changes are effective Nov. 1.

Web site

From page 5

about military behavioral-health issues, frequently asked questions or other sources of information. A page labeled “Get Answers” will allow people to submit specific questions to be answered by experts.

Other links from the front page lead to pages where information is gathered for groups of people with common interests – Soldiers, couples, children, extended families, National Guard, Army Reserve or behavioral-health providers.

“It is for Soldiers and their families – not just the nuclear families, but also members of extended families who may not be military health-care beneficiaries, but can access the

Web site,” Ritchie said.

Other pages provide information on specific issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide prevention, behavioral-health research, Battlemind training or the assessments and reassessments the Army conducts to detect health problems for deploying and redeploying Soldiers.

Some of the tools available will help families recognize symptoms of stress disorders, and help parents explain deployments to children of various ages. Army programs to help – such as the deployment assessments and Battlemind training, which teaches Soldiers how to improve resiliency and mitigate stress -- are explained.

Ritchie said specific information for unit commanders will be added to the site, and other additions are being made to adjust to changing needs of Soldiers and their families.

Military rally draws hundreds to Ripken Stadium

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Washington Area Collectors/Blue & Gray Military Vehicle Trust drew hundreds to its annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally at Ripken Stadium May 10 to 12.

Military vehicles, repair parts, weapons and equipment decorated the stadium parking lot as collectors hawked their wares and the curious browsed freely.

Funds from the rally benefit the Ordnance Museum Foundation.

Collectors from as far away as New England and Florida gathered for the three-day event.

Calvin Youngblood, a former Navy Seabee from Manassas, Va., said he's been participating in the rally for six years. Along with a 1968 274-M2 Mechanical Mule with a 106 mm recoilless rifle he entered in the vehicle contest, Youngblood displayed an array of military memorabilia from nuts and bolts to bayonets. He said the mule will

carry World War II veterans in the Memorial Day parade in Washington, D.C.

"I've been collecting for years, and I'm blessed with a really understanding wife because today's our anniversary," Youngblood said with a smile.

Dean Hansen of Edgewood also shared a story about his wife. Hansen displayed a 1961 UNIMOG (from the German "UNIversal-MOTOR-Gerät," meaning "universal motor machine/equipment") manufactured by Mercedes.

A long time member of the WAC/B&GMVT, Hansen said the vehicle, which he's had for seven years, is "fully operational, tagged and ready."

"Usually I'm a judge so I can't be entered in the contests," he said. With a chuckle Hansen told how he got his wife to agree to let him buy the vehicle after he found it.

"I told her I wanted a two-seat Mercedes Benz convertible with a big trunk," Hansen said. Stephanie and Carl Kinder-

vater of Richmond, Va., said they've been collecting for 25 years, and they've been involved with the rally since 1990. Their display featured technical manuals and pamphlets as well as collectible figurines and statues.

"Coming here is a lot of fun," Carl Kindervater said. "You meet a lot of good people and you always learn something new."

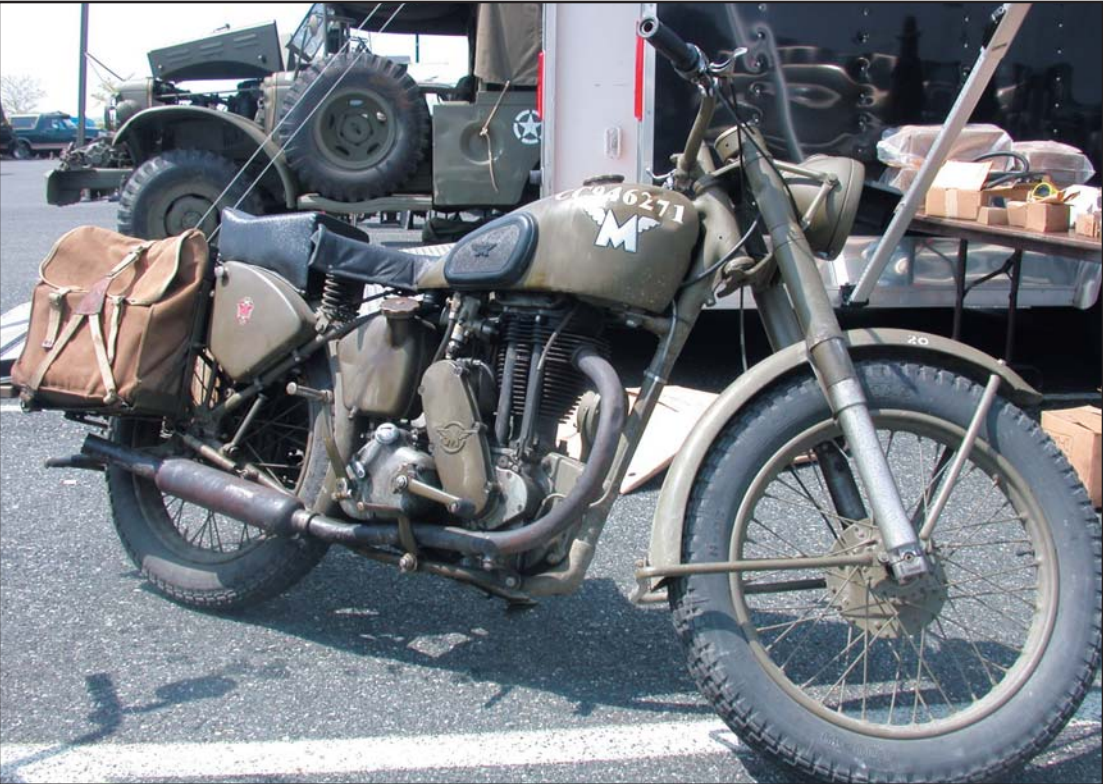
APG quilters join military collectors

Taking part in the rally for the first time were the members of Quilts for Broken Heroes, a group based on Aberdeen Proving Ground South, who create hand-made, one-of-a-kind quilts for hospitalized service members at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda Naval Hospital.

The group obtained its nonprofit status in March and is sending its efforts into high gear, according to group founder and Edgewood Chemical Biological Center employee Carol Hansen.



A German World War II-era 37mm anti-aircraft gun, rear, and a Japanese Type 80, 20mm anti-aircraft gun, front, sit on display at the Blue & Gray Military Vehicle Rally at Ripken Stadium May 11.



A 1941 Matchless motorcycle, commonly used during World War II is one of several vehicles entered in the rally's 'Best in Show' competition.



Sentiments like this one adorn the entire Signature Quilt which will be presented to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in June.

"Now we can hold fundraisers," Hansen said, adding that purchasing a long-arm quilting machine is the group's long-term goal.

"It will take less time so we can make more quilts faster," she said.

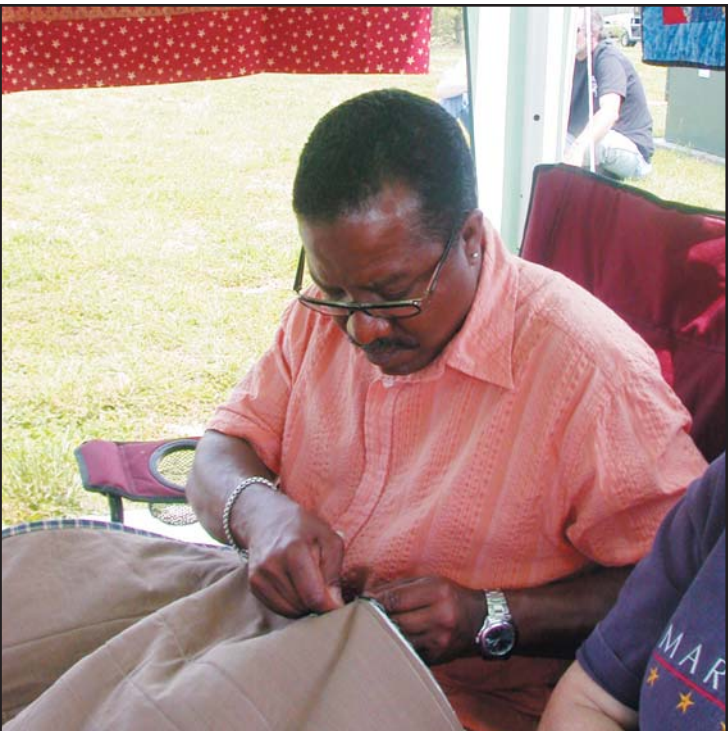
The group displayed several finished quilts and scrapbooks filled with letters of thanks from wounded Warriors.

They asked passers by to sign a Signature Quilt they designed which will be presented to WRAMC on June 22.

"We've been asking people to sign and send their best wishes and everyone's been happy to comply," Hansen said.

The Quilts for Broken Heroes quilters meet at the APG South Chapel on Monday nights at 7 p.m.

To learn more about the group or to join, e-mail Hansen at cshansen@comcast.net.



Damon Smith an Edgewood Chemical Biological Center employee and a member of Quilts for Broken Heroes, works on a quilt hem during the group's first fundraiser at the Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Rally.



The American and Navy Seabees flags are displayed on an M274 mechanical mule belonging to Calvin Youngblood, a collector from Manassas, Va.

Sports

APG Garrison team wins civilian volleyball championship

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Garrison "Big Dogs" went up against the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and came out like fat cats to win the civilian volleyball league championship 25-14; 25-12; 25-14, at the Aberdeen Athletic Center May 9.

Led by Pete Leon-Guerrero, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, the team went 8-1 in the regular season and undefeated in the playoffs.

Although ATC made a game out of it, the team was plagued by miss-plays and turnovers, and the Big Dawgs pretty much controlled the best-of-five series.

"Pass, set and spike was our plan the whole season," Leon-Guerrero said. "The Big Dogs never practice together; our practice was during the games. Everyone on the team had their own special skills and strengths. We play basic, fundamental volleyball and it showed tonight. They're an awesome and special group and I wish we could stay together."

He named Sarah Behl and Albert (A.J.) Jones

co-MVPs.

Behl, a training specialist with the APG North Child Development Center who played on high school and college teams, played a fearless defense, particularly at the net.

"I've always enjoyed playing volleyball," she said, adding that this was her first season with the civilian league and that she would likely be back next year.

Jones, who was a regular in the Athletic Center when he was on active duty remains a fixture now that he's retired and working as a logistics support engineer with the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

"We pretty much knew what to expect from each other and played as a team the whole season," Jones said. "If I wasn't playing I'd be up there refereeing," he added.

Leon-Guerrero thanked the Athletic Center staff and MWR program specialist Charles Heinsohn who manages the civilian sports program.

"If it wasn't for [Heinsohn] none of this would have happened," he said.



The Garrison "Big Dogs" pose with their trophies after winning the civilian volleyball league championship at the Aberdeen Athletic Center May 9. Pictured left to right front: Sarah Behl, Pete Leon-Guerrero, coach, and Danielle Tobin. Standing: Tim Hall, John King, Albert Jones, Patrick Gillich and George Mantanona.

Volunteers

From front page

we have to continue to go after.”

Nadeau presented Department of the Army certificates of appreciation to all nominees and engraved plaques to the winners.

Beckett thanked ACS volunteer coordinator Marilyn Howard, the ACS and Top of the Bay staff, and the program’s sponsor Johns Hopkins Uniform Services Health Plan. The 389th Army Band Jazz Combo, led by Staff Sgt. Eddy Nubine, provided music.

The other nominees included:

Military: Maj. Kathleen Williams-Trant; Staff Sgt. Demond Lyles; Staff Sgt. Joel Wheaton, USAF, and Sgt. Juana Lyles.

Family Member: Kathleen Rooney; Rhonda Roseberry; LeAnn Schuene-mann and Constance Slater.

Civilian: Evelyn Childs; Sheryl Coleman; Karen Goodpasture; Sher-yl Hale; Taisha Penn; Robert L. Pope; Suzanne Procell and Gwen Roney.

Nominees appreciate recognition

“It felt great and I’m very hon-ored, but there are people much more worthy,” said Kathleen Rooney, a nominated Family member. A mem-ber of the Military and Civilian Spouses’ Club, Rooney was nomi-nated for her work as the hospitality chairperson.

“We work as a group and I’m just a team member,” she said. “I’m just the face of the group.”

Rooney is the wife of Col. John Rooney, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center. She was nominated by Gloria DeBerry, MCSC president.

Sheryl Coleman, a program spe-cialist with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, was nominated in the Civilian category for her leadership of the installation’s Federal Wom-en’s Program, her participation in the annual Army Family Action Plan symposiums and for serving as her organization’s Well Being Council representative. Coleman called vol-unteering “a passion for making a difference.”

“It’s easy to look at something and complain from the outside but it takes a volunteer to make a difference on the inside,” she said. “No matter what it is you’re trying to do, it takes a lot



**Petty Officer 2nd Class
Daniel Valadez**
Military Volunteer of the Year

to make a plan come together, and unless you’re participating with the plan, you shouldn’t complain.”

The 2006 APG Volunteers of the Year

**Petty Officer 2nd Class
Daniel Valadez**
Military Volunteer of the Year

Valadez is a corpsman stationed on the hospital ship the USN Comfort in Dundalk. He was nominated by Bill Kegley, director of Child Youth Ser-vices sports program for coaching youth soccer, football, basketball and softball. Valadez accepted the award along with his children Jordan, 16; Amilia, 14; Taren, 13; and Patrick, 8. He said he started coaching for his son Patrick’s basketball team two years ago and that it “just kept going from there.”

“And now my son Jordan is start-ing to coach,” Valadez laughed.

“I just like working with the kids,” he said. “I was surprised to win but it feels good.”

Elisa A. Paolucci
*Family Member
Volunteer of the Year*

Paolucci was lauded for her accomplishments serving as Fam-ily Readiness Group lead volunteer in support of Company C, 2/224th Aviation, Maryland Army National Guard, while the unit was deployed in 2006. Paolucci said that taking care of her two children while see-ing to the needs of other Families, particularly those dealing with their first deployment, was challenging but necessary.

“I stayed busy but I’d rather do that than have unhappy Families,”



Elisa A. Paolucci
*Family Member
Volunteer of the Year*

she said.

The wife of company command-er Capt. David Paolucci, she said that the Family members have remained close since the unit’s return and that that should work to their advantage during future deployments.

“Once we started we found it easy to work together as a group,” she said. “We stay active and involved and that will make it easier to come together.”

Luis Felipe Fernandez
Civilian Volunteer of the Year

Fernandez was nominated by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Dwarka Singh, assistant division chief of the Con-ventional Weapons Department, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Mainte-nance School. An active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Asso-ciation of the United States Army and the Ordnance Corps Association, Fernandez is credited with spearhead-ing numerous projects benefiting the Soldiers, civilians and veterans of APG and the surrounding community, including organizing Operation Uplink fundraisers to purchase phone cards for deploying troops, and conducting Bingo Friday nights for patients at the Perry Point VA Medical Center.

Singh, who has a son serving in Iraq, said that Fernandez even gives new Soldiers coming into APG paid memberships into the VFW.

“He gave out more than 400 mem-berships in 2006,” Singh said. “The impact he’s had is so impressive. He’s just a tireless, selfless worker.”

“It feels great,” Fernandez said of his efforts. “I’ve been doing this almost twenty-three years. I love being around the Soldiers, retirees



Luis Felipe Fernandez
Civilian Volunteer of the Year

and Disabled American Veterans. It makes me feel like in some small way, I’m giving back to them what they gave to me.”

Barry Decker
Retiree Volunteer of the Year

Becker is vacationing in Germany. His citation reads: “As the 2006 APG Retiree Volunteer of the Year, your 25 years of service to the retired commu-nity as a member and co-chairman of the APG Military Retiree Council is a record to be proud of. Your volun-teer efforts have resulted in superbly successful programs arranged for the benefit of the local retired communi-ty. Your untiring efforts have resulted in closer coordination between the retired community and the APG com-mand and reflect great credit upon yourself, the U.S. Army, Aberdeen



Diana Stanley
Youth Volunteer of the Year

Proving Ground and the community volunteer program.”

Diana Stanley
Youth Volunteer of the Year

A member of the APG Catholic Service, Stanley has been a volunteer teacher assistant for pre-schoolers for the last four years. Also a cantor and a member of the choir, Stanley was nominated by Gerri Merkel, director of Religious Education.

Stanley said that volunteering is something that compensates more than money.

“I just love working with the kids and seeing them learn and grow,” Stanley said. “It’s a wonderful thing because you get as much out of it as the people you’re helping. I strongly encourage [volunteering] because it’s very rewarding.”

Summer youth volunteer opportunities at VA Medical Center

VA

Applications are now being accepted for youths who are between the ages of 14 and 17 for the 2007 Summer Youth Volunteer Program at the Perry Point VA Medical Center which begins in June.

To participate in the program, students must be able to commit at least 40 hours of volunteer service throughout the summer and may work no more than three days per week.

Applications must be signed by a parent or guardian to participate and all youth volunteers must present a copy of their birth certificate to ver-ify their age.

Once applications are received and volunteer candidates are select-ed, each youth volunteer will be scheduled for an orientation to introduce them to their work site and volunteer supervisor and to familiarize them with the policies and procedures related to the Summer Youth Volunteer Program.

For more information, visit the VA Maryland Health Care System Web site at www.maryland.va.gov or call the Voluntary Service Office, 1-800-949-1003, ext. 1039.



AAFES Quality Assurance Team puts safety ahead of sales

AAFES

When military Families shop, the last thing they should have to worry about is the safety or quality of the products they purchase. Thanks to a small army of Quality Assurance professionals at the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, any worries are alleviated long before a product hits the BX/PX shelves.

Consisting of 41 associates across the globe, the AAFES Quality Assurance Team’s mission is to provide troops and their Families with the highest possible level of consumer protection for the full range of merchandise available at AAFES locations worldwide.

AAFES Quality Assurance accomplishes this mission through a wide range of quality control systems including inspection, product testing and analysis, feedback and recalls, supplier quality assistance, social compliance as well as food and sanitation.

“Military shoppers should expect nothing less than safe, reliable and high quality merchandise

when shopping their BX/PX,” said AAFES director of Quality Assurance Tom Rebman. “This command’s quality assurance team is at work every day to ensure the exchange facilities products have passed the most rigorous and thorough of inspections.”

A recent Quality Assurance test revealed that a toy being sold by the exchange contained a high lead count. After receiving the results, AAFES Quality Assurance associates quickly contacted the Consumer Product Safety Commission to initiate a nationwide recall. (See article below.)

“This latest recall is just another example of the diligent work the AAFES Quality Assurance team does to protect military Families,” Rebman said. “From our lab at headquarters to the distribution centers and suppliers’ facilities, our team of inspectors, veterinarians and even a gemologist work day in and day out to bring the safest and most reliable products to every member of the military Family.”

Don’t let this one get away AAFES drops a line on the fishing trip of a lifetime

AAFES

Troops fishing for a good deal at BXs/PXs in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico this summer can reel in an all expense paid vacation for two to south Florida as part of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service’s and Maurice Sporting Goods’ “Florida Keys Fishing Sweeps.”

The contest’s grand prize will send one lucky AAFES shopper, and a guest of their choice, to the Florida Keys where in addition to soaking up the fun and sun, they will have an opportunity to be randomly paired with anglers competing in “Captain Gary Ellis’ Redbone Fishing Tournament” for one day.

“Our team is constantly looking for unique and exciting giveaways for military Families to

take part in,” said AAFES’ chief marketing officer Richard Sheff. “We are very excited about this contest as it is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go to one of the hottest fishing destinations on earth and participate in a premiere outdoor competition.”

Authorized exchange shoppers throughout CONUS, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico can register for a chance to win the “Florida Keys Fishing Sweeps” through June 14. This “AAFES-only” prize package, valued at approximately \$3,500, will be awarded on or about July 15. No purchase is necessary to enter. Personnel with exchange privileges can find the BX/PX nearest them by logging on to the store locator link at www.aafes.com.

AAFES recalls ‘Soldier Bear’ Toy set due to lead

AAFES

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service has announced a voluntary recall of the Soldier Bear brand Invincible Transport Converters, Style #88931 activity play toy.

Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately. Surface paints on toy action figures contain high levels of lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects.

This recall involves Soldier Bear Brand Invincibles Transport Converters. The model included in this recall is: 88931,



http://www.armytimes.com/news/2007/05/military_aafes_toyrecall_070523/

UPC # 6 98567 88931 4 CRC #: 1419301. Retail package has a Soldier Bear logo on the front and back. The back of the action figures are marked with letters “TC-ST.”

The toy was sold at AAFES stores worldwide from August 2006 through April 2007 for

about \$19.95.

Consumers should immediately take the toys away from children and return the product to the nearest AAFES store for full refund.

For additional information, contact AAFES at 800-866-3605 or visit www.aafes.com.

AAFES gives military shoppers opportunity to meet Mickey Today is last day to register

AAFES

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service and Luggage America are offering military Families the chance to meet Mickey and friends with a trip for four to a Disney Resort in Florida, California, Paris, Hong Kong or Tokyo.

The Disney Sweepstakes prize package includes round trip airfare to the Disney Resort in closest proximity to the winner, ground transportation to and from the airport, three days and two nights at the resort, four theme park tickets and a five-piece set of AA luggage. The total value of this “AAFES-only” prize package is approximately \$3,000.

“Dreams do come true when military Families shop their

BX/PX,” said AAFES chief of Marketing Richard Sheff. “With summer just around the corner and the kids getting out of school, there is no better time than now to visit your exchange and maybe even win a trip to the ‘happiest place on earth.’”

Through May 31, authorized shoppers can register at

participating locations worldwide for a chance to win the Disney sweepstakes, which will be awarded on or about June 27. No purchase is necessary to enter.

Personnel with exchange privileges can find the BX/PX nearest them by logging on to the store locator link at www.aafes.com.

APG firefighters mentor ChalleNGe cadets

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Two would-be firefighters from the Maryland Army National Guard's Freestate ChalleNGe Academy got to see the firefighting profession from the inside thanks to APG firefighters from the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Fire and Emergency Services Division.

Cadets Brandon Smoot, 17, from Washington, D.C., and Keith Bryant, 18, from Suitland, Md., learned the basics of handling and maintaining firefighting equipment as well as basic firefighting skills as a part of the academy's Job Shadowing program.

Fire inspectors Doug Farrington, Chris Starling and Tom Stanford conducted the training and on May 8, firefighter Ernie Little taught an equipment familiarization class.

"I'm showing them what I do as an inspector, but they understand that they won't start where I am," Starling said.

The firefighters helped the cadets into full gear, and then showed them how to handle, use and maintain equipment like their breathing apparatus. Little explained about PSI and other factors of the apparatus before letting the cadets try the equipment on to experience the feel of a proper fit. The training included proper gear removal and other procedures.

Both cadets had already filled out applications with fire departments in Prince Georges and Montgomery County, Starling said.

"We'll also have them sitting in with emergency dispatchers," he said adding that the training would conclude with a video tape about fire extinguishers, and then they would allow the trainees to put out a small fire.

Starling said the two were "very attentive and interested."

"These two will likely pursue firefighting careers," he said.



Photo by TOM STANFORD
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy cadet Keith Bryant, right, looks on as Aberdeen Proving Ground firefighter Ernie Little demonstrates putting out a fire with a fire extinguisher during the academy's job shadowing program at the APG South Fire Department May 8.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON
Freestate ChalleNGe cadets Brandon Smoot, right and Keith Bryant, center, in the academy's Job Shadow program, watch closely as APG firefighter Ernie Little goes over the details of the harness and breathing apparatus in the APG South firehouse.



APG firefighters Ernie Little, left, and Tom Stanford, right, adjust the jacket collar and breathing apparatus for Keith Bryant.